

**TOWN OF GRANBY
COMMISSION ON AGING
SENIOR CENTER/YOUTH SERVICES BUILDING
February 13, 2012**

PRESENT: Dr. Peter Barwick, George Bronsord, Joanne Desrosiers, Karen Hood, Incy Muir, Bruce Sullivan; Staff Present: Kerry Kielbasa, Director of Human Services; Sandy Yost, Program Coordinator

GUEST: Laurie Blackburn

Dr. Barwick confirmed a quorum and began the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 12/12/11:

The minutes of 12/12/11 were reviewed. Bruce Sullivan noted that under the Senior Club Treasurer's Report, Dorothy Pryor's title should read Program Committee Chairman. **ON A MOTION BY** Bruce Sullivan, seconded by Joanne Desrosiers, the Commission voted (6-0-0) to approve the minutes of December 12, 2011 as corrected.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH:

- Ms. Yost reported that Sue Lawshe is the volunteer of the month for December. She teaches a scarf-making class called So Simple.
- Laurie Blackburn is the volunteer of the month for January for the class she teaches, Cooking with Laurie.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE REPORT:

a. Sandy Yost, Program Coordinator

- The Civic Engagement group has been meeting and their first project is to increase awareness of the CT Alert system and the Enhanced 911 system. Connecticut residents with a landline are automatically registered with the Alert system but they can register their cell phones, e-mail addresses, etc. in the event telephone service is lost. The Alert 911 system allows individuals with special needs to register with AT&T so first responders are aware of those needs. The Civic Engagement group will continue to meet to increase membership and take on more projects. Their next meeting is this Friday at 9:30 a.m.
- Ms. Yost looked into having a publisher do the newsletter. It can be published for free but would have to have advertising. She would need to give them leads toward the advertising but the Senior Center would not receive any proceeds from it. This also creates a conflict as the Senior Center has a no solicitation policy. The newsletter would still need to be folded, addressed and postage provided by the Center. As the cost savings would not be significant and issues related to the advertising, it was felt it was not worth it to go with an outside publisher.

- The Mind Sharpener program will be offered again in March and April.
- The Live-Well workshop will be offered again and will be held at the Simsbury Senior Center.
- Sally Sargent Markey is holding two classes as part of the Art is Ageless Program: “Finally a Use for Doodling” and a class making beads and bowls out of clay.
- The poetry class is going very well and a poetry reading will be held in the spring.
- There will be a Leap Year dinner on the 29th. Karen Wagner will be providing entertainment. She is a singer who has performed previously at area senior centers.

b. Bruce Sullivan, Senior Club Treasurer

- Presently, the checkbook balance is \$5,469.00.
- A collection will be taken up at the Senior Men’s Breakfast for anyone who wants to contribute to the cost of a new floor in the community room. Anyone who wants to make a contribution can do it through the Senior Club.
- In addition to the spring barbeque, a dinner may also be held.
- As part of the Hot Topics series, Phil Main will be speaking about probate tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT/TRANSPORTATION REPORT:

- Ms. Kielbasa reported that Al Martyn’s family donated his handicap accessible van to the Senior Center. The Board of Selectmen approved acceptance of this gift at the February 6th meeting. The van is not on the road yet and presently is at DPW. It is a side lift with bench style seating.
- Ms. Kielbasa will pass along information regarding the budget workshops once she has it.
- The National Conference on Aging is at the end of March but it is very expensive and many times they have the same presenters. Ms. Kielbasa is presently looking at other trainings which would be cheaper and provide a different perspective.
- The DOT grant renewal is due April 2nd.
- The NCAAA grants are due in mid-April. Due to the amount of work involved in the monthly reporting, it may not be worth it to continue with this for the \$2,000 that is received.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Joanne Desrosiers announced that she will not be able to attend the March and May meetings.
- George Bronsord inquired about a tax freeze program for the elderly. Ms. Kielbasa stated the State no longer does the freeze program but individuals can apply for the Elderly Property Tax Relief program. The application deadline is May 1st and this is done through the Assessor’s office.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION BY George Bronsord, seconded by Incy Muir, the commission voted (6-0-0) to adjourn at 2:20 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, March 12, 2012 at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kane
Recording Secretary